

Statement-II**Reported Expenditure incurred by State under Border Area Development Programme (BADP) during Eighth Plan**

(Rs. in lakh)

State	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	As per last report received for
Gujarat	601.03	705.40	705.26	564.00	Dec./96
Meghalaya	280.01	415.21	255.57	316.93	Dec./96
Mizoram	282.58	285.76	225.04	56.80	Sep./96
Rajasthan	Nil	1527.36	2428.08	900.09	Dec./96
J & K	1360.27	1458.89	1216.81	463.01	Feb./97
Assam	Nil	213.87	189.66	NA	Dec./96
West Bengal	1480.43	1180.42	NA	NA	Sep./96
Tripura	263.83	891.50	1408.44	NA	Sep./96
Punjab	541.66	748.70	763.89	233.05	Dec./96

*[English]***Degradation of Land****Cashew Cultivation**

5853. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to adopt Scientific System of cultivation to increase the cashew production; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTIONS AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme during VIII Plan on Integrated Development Programme of Cashew with a Plan outlay of Rs. 47.85 crores for the following Programmes which is likely to continue during IXth Plan also.

- (i) Multiplication & Supply of planting material of improved & high yielding varieties.
- (ii) Improving productivity of existing plantation.
- (iii) Adoption of improved production & pest management practices.
- (iv) Training of farmers.

5854. SHRI AMARPAL SINGH :
SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made a survey of the estimated hectareage of land under different forms of degradation out of the total land mass of the country; and

(b) if so, the percentage of degraded land and the measures taken for reclamation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The Department of wastelands Development have got 241 districts of the country surveyed through National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad. According to that an area of 35.65 million hectare is degraded which constitute 17.5% of the geographical area of the country. For reclamation of the degraded lands, various programmes are being implemented in the country under Central/State sector schemes and with external assistance.